IN THE COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS OF TENNESSEE AT NASHVILLE

JERRY DANIEL OAKLEY v. STATE OF TENNESSEE

Appeal from the Criminal Court for Sumner County No. 796-09 Dee David Gay, Judge

No. M2009-01895-CCA-R3-PC - Filed January 13, 2010

The Petitioner, Jerry Daniel Oakley, appeals from the order of the trial court dismissing his petition for post-conviction relief as time-barred. The State has filed a motion requesting that this Court affirm the judgment of the trial court pursuant to Rule 20 of the Rules of the Court of Criminal Appeals. We grant the State's motion and affirm the judgment of the trial court.

Tenn. R. App. P. 3 Appeal as of Right; Judgment of the Criminal Court Affirmed Pursuant to Rule 20, Rules of the Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals

DAVID H. WELLES, J., delivered the opinion of the Court, in which JERRY L. SMITH and ROBERT W. WEDEMEYER, JJ., joined.

Jerry Daniel Oakley, Pro Se.

Robert E. Cooper, Jr., Attorney General and Reporter; Lacy Wilber, Assistant Attorney General; Lawrence R. Whitley, District Attorney General; and Sallie Brown, Assistant District Attorney General, for the appellee, State of Tennessee.

MEMORANDUM OPINION

The record before us reflects that on March 14, 2003, the Petitioner pleaded guilty to and was convicted of three counts of rape of a child and three counts of incest. In accordance with his plea agreement, he received an effective sentence of twenty-five years to be served in the Department of Correction. Judgments were entered on March 14, 2003.

On August 21, 2009, the Petitioner filed a petition for post-conviction relief. The trial court determined that the petition was barred by the one-year statute of limitations and summarily dismissed the petition. It is from the order of the trial court dismissing the petition that the Petitioner appeals.

A person in custody under a sentence of a court of this state must petition for post-conviction relief within one year of the date of the final action of the highest state appellate court to which an appeal is taken, or if no appeal is taken, within one year from the date on which the judgment becomes final. See Tenn. Code Ann. § 40-30-102(a). If the petition is not filed within one year, consideration of the petition by the trial court is barred. Id. It is apparent from the record in this case that the petition was not filed within the time allowed by the statute of limitations.

Our legislature has provided only limited exceptions to the application of the statute of limitations. See Tenn. Code Ann. § 40-30-102(b). The Petitioner alleged in his petition that he is entitled to post-conviction relief primarily because he received the ineffective assistance of counsel prior to entering his guilty plea. He therefore asserts that his guilty plea was not voluntarily, knowingly, or intelligently entered. Although the Petitioner alleges that the statute of limitations should be "equitably tolled," an examination of the petition and the arguments presented on appeal reveal no facts or grounds under which due process would require that the statute of limitations not be strictly applied to the petition nor any reason supporting any exception to the application of the statute of limitations.

We conclude that the trial court did not err by summarily dismissing the petition for post-conviction relief as time-barred. Accordingly, the State's motion is granted and the judgment of the trial court is affirmed in accordance with Rule 20, Rules of the Court of Criminal Appeals.

DAVID H. WELLES, JUDGE